

SENATOR VEST

PLEADS IN VAIN FOR FREE IMPORTATION OF CIDER.

His Appeal to the New Englanders in the Name of Temperance has no Effect—The Senate Places Duty on Salt—Flowers, Plants and Cuttings, Heavily Taxed—The Duty on Citrus Fruits Made Almost Prohibitive.

Washington, June 16.—The senate made rapid work on the tariff bill today. There were no long speeches and the debate was of a snappy character, which at times, enlivened, but did not delay the serious work on the bill. Thirteen pages were disposed of, carrying the senate through the agricultural schedule and up to schedule H, relating to spirits, wines, etc. During the day the paragraphs on dairy products, farm products, fish, fruit and nuts, meat products and miscellaneous agricultural products were acted on. The finance committee proposed many changes, in the main advancing rates somewhat over those heretofore reported. The committee was sustained on every vote, although a contest was made on almost every paragraph. Senator Vest's motion to restore salt to the free list was rejected—yeas, 24; nays, 31. The important paragraph proposing a tax on tea went over at the suggestion of Senator Allison, who expressed hope that this duty on tea might be dispensed with.

The first contest of the day was over condensed milk. Senator Jones moved to make the rate 20 per cent. ad valorem, which was lost.

Senator Vest moved to put cabbages on the free list—lost.

When cider was reached, Senator Vest said he "drew the line at cider." After three weeks of arduous labor the democrats had succeeded in only one instance in securing a slight reduction and he appealed to New England to come to the rescue of cider. "The liquor of our boyhood," he said, "which cheers but not inebriates, which sparkles in every New England festival and in the west and the south, wherever the apple is raised and used." If there was a temperance man on the republican side of the chamber, to him Senator Vest appealed. He had been in Europe and had seen there that the use of light wines, beer and cider was the right road to temperance and he was sorry he was not there now instead of struggling hopelessly with the tariff.

"Give up the struggle," suggested Senator Frye, amid laughter.

The amendment was disagreed to—yeas, 21; nays, 28.

In the paragraph on eggs, not otherwise provided for, Senator Vest moved to reduce the rate from 5 cents to 3 cents per dozen—rejected.

In the paragraph on hay Senator Allison withdrew the committee's amendment, leaving the rate at 4 per cent.

On honey, Senator Vest moved to reduce the rate from 20 cents per gallon to 10 cents—disagreed to.

On hops, Senator Jones, of Arkansas, moved to reduce the committee rate from 12 cents to 8 cents per pound.

Senator Jones and the majority of the committee were in the minority. American hops were exported in large quantities and controlled the world's market.

Senator Vest submitted a memorial from New York and St. Louis brewers urging that the rate be placed at 8 cents.

Senator Jones' amendment was disagreed to—yeas, 22; nays, 28; and the committee rate of 12 cents per pound was then agreed to.

On onions, Senator Vest moved to reduce the rate from 40 to 20 cents per bushel—rejected.

On peas Senator Allison proposed a committee modification, making the rates on peas, green, in bulk, 30 cents per bushel; dried peas 30 cents; split peas 40 cents; agreed to.

Senator Jones offered a new paragraph covering flowers as follows: "Orchids, drosinas, chrysanthemums, azaleas, 30 per cent. ad valorem; tulips, hyacinths, narcissus, jonquils, lilies, lilies of the valley, and all bulbs and bulbous roots used for growing flowers, 30 per cent. ad valorem; natural flowers, preserved or fresh, for decorative purposes, 30 per cent. ad valorem."

"I am bound to say this is an outrage," declared Senator Vest. "That we should place a tax on flowers, brought into our homes and to adorn our dead, is an outrage. It is simply designed to allow these nurserymen to raise their prices. What will our republican friends tax next? Will it be the air that we breathe? Will it be the taking of the atmosphere and taxing the oxygen, and hydrogen, and nitrogen, because they are raw materials?" (Laughter.)

Senator Jones, of Arkansas, protested against making it a crime for our people to beautify and decorate their homes and bring a little brightness into them. He moved to strike out the clause beginning "tulips, hyacinths, etc."—rejected 25 to 23, and Senator Jones' new paragraph was then agreed to.

On stocks, seedlings, etc., Senator Allison, for the committee, proposed several changes, making the rate on stocks, cuttings, etc., of myrobalan plum or mahaleb or mazzard cherry, 50 and 15 per cent. ad valorem per 1,000 plants; stocks, etc., of pear apple, quince, or St. Julian plum 51 and 15 per cent. ad valorem, per 1,000 plants; rose plants 25 cents each—agreed to.

At this point Senator Pettus, of Alabama, gave notice of an amendment to the sugar schedule, making unlawful the importation of sugar by any trust or combination formed in restraint of trade or to increase the price of sugar. The amendment provides that such sugar when imported shall be forfeited to the government and that the attorney general shall take steps to enforce this forfeiture.

On potatoes, Senator Allison withdrew the committee amendment of 20 cents per bushel, leaving the house rate of 25 cents per bushel. This brought the senate to the fish paragraphs, and a number of committee amendments were agreed to.

Fruit and nuts were then taken up. For the paragraph relating to oranges, lemons, limes, grape fruit and pomelos, the committee had substituted the rate of 1 cent per pound for the house rate of 3 per cent. on the fruit and 30 per cent. ad valorem on the boxes, etc. The paragraph caused some discussion.

Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, presented a statement showing that the proposed rate would be prohibitory on foreign oranges, lemons, etc.

Senator Gray, of Delaware, characterized this as a wanton and cruel tax on the poorer people of the country, showing the devastating effects of protection carried to an extreme. These

rates, he declared, were devised solely for a greedy and selfish interest. The consumer including the fever stricken hospital patient, had been forgotten. The increase was more than 400 per cent. on the present law and more than 200 per cent. over the McKinley law. Senator Perkins, of California, championed the interests of the citrus fruit growers of California. He said that the price of foreign lemons was put up when the duty was increased. In the hospital. Much of this class of fruit brought disease and had to be condemned by the authorities.

Senator White, of California, also supported the proposed rates, differing with his democratic associates in their statement that the duty would be excessive.

The paragraph was then agreed to as reported.

On paragraph 265, orange peel or lemon peel preserved, etc., and cocoanut meat, the committee rate was changed, on motion of Senator Allison, to 25 cents per pound, the remainder of the paragraph being agreed to.

Pine apples went over at the request of Senator Quay.

On almonds, the rates were changed on motion of Senator Allison to 3 cents per pound on unshelled almonds and 6 cents on shelled almonds. Walnuts and walnuts were agreed to as reported, also peanuts and nuts of all kinds not specially provided for.

Meat products were next considered. The paragraphs as to fresh beef, etc., prepared meat and dead game were agreed to. Poultry was agreed to at 2 cents per pound on live and 5 cents on dressed.

Paragraph 282, fixing the rate on salt in bags at 23 cents per 100 pounds and in bulk 5 cents per 100, occasioned strong opposition.

Senator Vest said free salt, free lumber, free wool and the income tax were the features which reconciled him to the Wilson bill. Salt was one of the great preservatives of nature, like the air and water, and yet an excessive duty was to be placed on it. He moved to strike out the entire salt paragraph, with a new one placing salt on the free list—disagreed to—yeas, 24; nays, 31; Senator McEnery voting in the negative with the republicans.

Senator Mills, of Texas, gave notice of an amendment to the bill providing that only 75 per cent. of the duties shall be levied against the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at a ratio of 16 to 1.

The bill was laid aside at 5 o'clock, and a message from the president was announced.

Senator Davis, of Minnesota, immediately secured a recess session.

At 5:35 o'clock p. m., the senate adjourned.

THE TOBACCO TRUST TRIAL.

Additional Testimony on the Part of the Prosecution as to Contracts of Dealers With the Company.

New York, June 16.—The trial of the indicted heads of the American Tobacco Company was resumed before Judge Fitzgerald in the court of special sessions today.

The first witness called by the prosecution was H. J. Park, a son of the senior member of the firm of Park & Tilford. He testified that he dealt in cigarettes previous to January, 1896. He bought cigarettes previous to that date from the American Tobacco Company. As a result of a conversation held between his father and Mr. Butler about January, 1896, which he overheard, about 22,500 cigarettes made by a revival of the American Tobacco Company were returned to the manufacturers.

Examined by Mr. Choate, the witness said his firm was incorporated under the laws of the state of New Jersey. According to the terms of consignment, the firm was privileged to send back the cigarettes returned as related in direct examination. He did not think they could not be sold. He did not understand that there was any threat of intimidation implied by Mr. Butler. He understood the latter to tell him that if he read the contract carefully he would see that he could not consistently sell other goods. In selling the goods of the American Tobacco Company, he was not to sell his firm did not fix the retail price. His was the only firm he knew of that had a contract with the American Tobacco Company not to sell the company's goods below price, and not to deal with firms handling other cigarettes.

Before Mr. Park was examined by the district attorney to know if the defense would produce Mr. Butler, if required for the purpose of identification, the defense objected and asked that the defense be permitted to produce Mr. Butler at the afternoon session of the court.

Robert C. Brown, manager of the Owl Cigar Company testified that in October, 1894, he had begun to handle a brand of cigarettes made by the National Cigarette and Tobacco Company. Previous to that he signed the "consignment" contract of the American Tobacco Company. Shortly after he began handling the opposition brand he telephoned to the American Tobacco Company. He was notified of some suspension in the filling of his orders. The next day an agent of the American Tobacco Company, whose name was Dunstable, called and told Mr. Brown that the American Tobacco Company could fill no more orders for him. Mr. Brown then called at the office of the American Tobacco Company and had an interview with a representative of the company, who assured him that there would be no further trouble; that his orders would be promptly filled thereafter. All that was necessary for him to do was to "remain loyal to the American Tobacco Company."

Daniel Dressler, a tobacco jobber of Brooklyn, testified that he had called upon Mr. Butler and told him that he wanted to handle American Tobacco Company's goods he would have to cease handling any outside brands. Dressler asked Butler what he would do with his stock and Butler told him: "Throw it in the river if you like." Later, Dressler told Mr. Butler called upon him and made an offer for his supply of the independent brand which he was carrying.

Court adjourned until Friday. The proceedings today were greatly disturbed by the noise of the tearing down of the Tombs prison.

Anti-Lynch Law Society Founded.

Columbus, Ohio, June 16.—The National Anti-Mob and Lynch Law Society has been incorporated. The purposes of the organization are declared to be to discourage mob and lynch law within the United States and to agitate public sentiment with a view to securing such legislation as will suppress such practice by providing adequate punishment for violators. It is proposed to form branch associations all over the United States.

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THE ANNEXATION TREATY

SIGNED BY THE PROPER PARTIES AND SENT TO THE SENATE.

It is Accompanied by a Message From the President—Synopsis of the Terms of the Treaty—Strong Opposition of Some Senators—Proposition to Make Hawaii Part of Washington or Oregon—To Push the Matter in Committee.

Washington, June 16.—The treaty for the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands reached the senate chamber at 5 o'clock today. The senate at once went into executive session and as soon as the doors were closed the message of President McKinley, accompanying the treaty and the treaty itself, were read to the senate. They were attentively listened to. In one part of the chamber there was a group of senators who will bitterly oppose the ratification of the treaty. Among them were Senators Gray, Mills, White, Caffery, Pettigrew and McEnery. As soon as the reading of the documents were completed, Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, moved that the message and the treaty be made public. Senator Gray objected to a vote on the motion and under the rules a single objection carried the motion over until tomorrow. Senator Davis gave notice that at the next executive session he would present the motion for publication as well as the treaty and an almost verbatim copy of the treaty has been published in the press of the country.

There was some discussion as to when the treaty should be considered. Senator White asked if it was the intention to push it at this session, and upon the reply being made that it was possible, he announced that he was prepared to stay here all summer to prevent the ratification of the treaty, which I consider a very bad proposition.

"I'll join you," said Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota.

That the president was not a very long document. It dealt with historical facts concerning the islands and showed that the United States and Hawaii were related by blood and kindred ties. This was not really annexation, he said, but a continuation of existing relations with closer bonds between the two peoples. Since 1820, said the president, the predominance of the United States had been growing. The sending of the first envoy to Hawaii, the establishment of consular relations with the United States and those relations had grown more firm by succeeding years. The treaty, he said, was made for the government of Samoa, Great Britain and Germany wanted to include Hawaii in their sphere of influence. The United States, he said, had established, but the suggestion was rejected by the United States, because this government held that there already existed consular relations with Hawaii. The United States which placed the islands under the special care of this country, and that this government could not allow any other country to interfere in the affairs of Hawaii. The annexation of the islands, said the president, and making them a part of the United States, was in accordance with the established policy of this country.

The president called attention to the fact that the Hawaiian Islands, under the government of Hawaii offered to annex the islands to the United States in 1893, but on account of what was deemed best for the Hawaiian people, the president said, by this country. He stated that the United States virtually exercised a protectorate over the islands since the first American mission, and guaranteed the autonomy of the governments of the group. The islands had been largely settled by our people, and our people were interested in them. American interests predominated and we had fought to consider them under our own protection. The Hawaiian Islands were a part of a consummation of what had practically been in existence for years.

Referring to the treaty negotiated under the administration of President McKinley, he said that the failure to accept the offer of annexation in 1893, while not the fault of the president, was wholly without its value, as it had demonstrated that the existing government could maintain itself, and no question was raised as to the right of the present government to negotiate the present treaty, or of its right to yield the sovereignty of the islands.

At 9:20 o'clock this morning at the state department by Secretary Sherman, for the United States, and the Hawaiian government. The Hawaiian representatives had brought with them a gold pen in a plain holder, and the Hawaiian government had signed the treaty. The Hawaiian government had signed the treaty. The Hawaiian government had signed the treaty.

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